

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-03

COME-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INT-08 L-03 NSC-07 OMB-01

PM-07 SAM-01 SCI-06 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 AGR-20

SWF-02 DRC-01 /241 W

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O P 290025Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2644

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

U.S.MISSION EC BRUSSELS 31

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

U.S. MISSION OECD PARIS 136

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT FORD'S REMARKS

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REF: QUITO 6404

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF RELEVANT SECTION OF SEPTEMBER 28 SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA COMMENTING SPECIFICALLY ON PRESIDENT FORD'S REMARKS ABOUT PETROLEUM PRICES AND GENERALLY ON RODRIGUEZ' VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES.

2. "SINCE I HAVE TOUCHED ON A POINT THAT IS INTERNATIONAL, ATTENDING AN ACT OF LATIN AMERICAN BINATIONAL INTEGRATION, AND HAVING EXPRESSED IN A SHORT STATEMENT TO A FOREIGN JOURNALIST OUR SOLIDARITY WITH THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA IN RELATION TO THE POSTURE ADOPTED TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES, I CONSIDER IT INDISPENSABLE TO REFER TO THE STATEMENTS MADE BY PRESIDENT GERALD FORD. WITH RESPECT TO PETROLEUM PRODUCTION IN COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD, IT IS A VITAL MATTER FOR US TO DEFEND OUR NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE SOVEREIGNTY THAT PROTECTS THEM. TO BE SINCERE, I AM NOT SO MUCH ALARMED BY THE STATEMENTS OF MR. FORD. I DECLINE TO BELIEVE THAT HIS INTENTION COULD HAVE BEEN TO THREATEN THE DEVELOPING WORLD WITH PREVENTING IT FROM ADMINISTERING, SOVEREIGNTY, ITS ENERGY RESOURCES. OF COURSE, I CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE REASONS THAT PROVIDED IN HIS SPIRIT SO SOMBRE A REACTION, FEARING THAT THE INFLATIONARY CRISIS, APPARENTLY SHARPENED BY A REASONABLE INCREASE IN THE WORLDWIDE PRICE OF PETROLEUM, WOULD CULMINATE IN A WAR-LIKE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THOSE WHO ARE DEFENDING THEIR INALIENABLE WEALTH AND THEIR SOVEREIGNTY AND THE GREAT POWERS, POSSESSORS OF GREAT FINANCIAL AND MILITARY POWER THAT CAUSES TERROR TO CONTEMPORARY HUMANITY.

3. "THAT WOULD NOT BE A WAR-LIKE CONFRONTATION, BUT RATHER A BARBAROUS DESTRUCTION, BURYING ALL VALID ACHIEVEMENTS OF REASON, JUSTICE, OR LAW; NEGATION OF WHO KNOWS HOW MANY INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS CONSECRATING THE SOVEREIGN EXISTENCE OF STATES AND THEIR FREE, INTERNAL SELF-DETERMINATION WITH NO ONE PERMITTED TO EXERCISE RULE BY FORCE. BECAUSE THIS IS UNDENIABLE LOGIC, THAT IS WHY I AM TRYING TO EXPLAIN PSYCHOLOGICALLY THE SPIRIT OF THE AMERICAN CHIEF OF STATE. I ARRIVE AT THE CONVICTION THAT HIS POSI-
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TION DOES NOT CONTAIN A CONSCIOUS AND VOLUNTARY THREAT OF WAR TO THE UNARMED THIRD WORLD.

4. "THROUGH THE LONG AND NERVESHATTERING EPISODE WHICH CULMINATED IN THE RESIGNATION OF NIXON THERE WAS PUT IN SHARP RELIEF THE STRONG INSTITUTIONAL CONSCIENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, THEIR IMPASSIONED ATTACHMENT TO INFLEXIBLE RULES OF FORMAL AND SUBSTANTIVE JUSTICE, THEIR CLEAR

UNDERSTANDING OF AN EGALITARIAN ORIENTATION TOWARD HUMANITY IN THE LATTER PART OF THIS CENTURY. AND THIS DEMONSTRATION CONFIRMS ME IN THE SECURE KNOWLEDGE THAT THAT SOCIETY WOULD NEVER CONSENT TO CARRY OUT THE PROPOSITION OF STRANGLING THE ECONOMY OF SMALL COUNTRIES WHOSE GEOGRAPHY HAS BLESSED THEM WITH ENERGY RESOURCES, AND EVEN LESS TO UNLEASH A CONFLAGRATION WHICH UNFORTUNATELY WOULD EVEN EXTERMINATE THE POWER FORGED BY THE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY THROUGH CENTURIES OF LABOR AND GREATNESS.

5. "FINALLY, MY TRANQUILITY IS FOUNDED UPON THE CAPACITY FOR RATIONAL THOUGHT AND IN THE GOOD MEMORY OF THE PEOPLE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, ABOVE ALL OF ITS LEGISLATORS AND POLITICAL LEADERS. THE PAST AND PRESENT HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES WAS SUBJECT TO A NEW ANALYSIS DURING THE WATERGATE PROCESS, AND IT WAS PRECISELY NEWSMEN, WRITERS, JUDGES, MAGISTRATES, AND AMERICAN CITIZENS OF ALL LEVELS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT, IN THE FIRST PLACE, THEY OUGHT NEVER AGAIN TO RELY ON ATTEMPTS TO DOMINATE NOR USE AS A WEAPON OF POLITICAL CONTROL ECONOMIC COERCION AGAINST WEAK COUNTRIES, NOR TO TRY TO PROLONGTHE RULE OF THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF A GIGANTIC POWER IN PREJUDICE OF AND DESTRUCTION OF POWERLESS COUNTRIES. THE POEOPLE OF THE U.S. HAVE ALWAYS DEMONSTRATED, ESPECIALLY THROUGH THEIR GREAT MEN LIKE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT AND JOHN F. KENNEDY, THAT THE SPIRIT OF COMPREHENSION AND HARMONY BETWEEN THE NATIONS OF THE WHOLE WORLD HAS NEITHER DIED NOR BEEN DEFEATED."

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